IV.—NON-OFFICIAL BILL.

THE MADRAS MARUMAKKATTAYAM (REMOVAL OF DOUBTS) BILL, 1955.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri Narayana Kurup will now introduce his Bill."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" On a point of information, Sir. In the old Agenda circulated to Members it was stated that the City Police and Gaming (Amendment) Bill, 1955, will be taken up to-day. May I know whether it is going to be taken up to-day or tomorrow."

MR. SPEAKER :—" When we finish the other two items we will come to that. If there is time we will take it up to-day."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Madras Marumakkattayam (Removal of Doubts) Bill, 1955."

SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN :—" I second it, Sir."

The motion was put and carried, and the Bill was introduced.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Bill will be published in the Gazette."

V.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

REGULATION OF PRIZE PUZZLE COMPETITIONS.

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'*That this Assembly do resolve that it is desirable that control and regulation of Prize Puzzle Competitions and all other matters consequential and incidental thereto in so far as these matters are matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the States, should be regulated by Parliament by law.*'

" Sir, this is a familiar subject. I do not think it is necessary for me to make any lengthy speech in introducing this legislation. But I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members the historical background for the contemplated legislation on this subject. The first serious attempt to tackle this question was made in 1939 when the Congress Ministry was in office. A comprehensive Bill on the lines of the Betting and Lotteries Act of 1934 at State level was drafted. In the meanwhile war came and the Ministry resigned. Therefore it could not be taken up. Again in 1947 this question was taken up but it was felt that legislation should be taken up on an All-India level rather than at State level. Therefore the matter was not pursued further at the State level. But when the matter was referred to the Government of India they in turn wrote back saying that if the situation in any particular State was so serious, then the State Governments might take action by passing proper legislation in the State Legislatures.